LAW OFFICE OF GREGORY P. BROCK

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April 20, 2005

Bill Lockyer, Attorney General Edward Weil, Supervising Deputy Attorney General Office of the Attorney General, Department of Justice State of California 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612

Thomas J. Orloff, District Attorney Alameda County District Attorney's Office 1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Notice of Violation of Proposition 65 By W.C. Bradley Co./Zebco Holdings, Inc.

Gentlepeople:

I have been retained by Steven Schwartzberg, a California resident concerned with childhood lead exposure, to initiate an action against W.C. Bradley Co./Zebco Holdings, Inc., doing business as Zebco ("Zebco") for violations of Proposition 65. This letter will serve as formal notice that Zebco, an Oklahoma corporation doing business in California, with a principal place of business of 6505 Tower Lane, Claremore, OK 74017, has violated the warning requirements of Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act (Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 and following).

Zebco has exposed numerous individuals within the State of California to lead, a chemical added to the Proposition 65 list as a carcinogen on October 1, 1992, and as a source of developmental toxicity on February 27, 1987. The time period of the violations that are the subject of this notice commenced more than one year after the listed dates above. The general geographic location of the unlawful exposure has been at approximately 30 retail stores in the State of California to which Zebco distributed children's fishing poles containing lead paint. The means of exposure and/or threatened exposure has been by distributing these products for sale at stores in California which sell fishing poles to small children, the intended consumers of the

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products in question. The route of exposure has been primarily through dermal contact with the chemical contained in the paint; however additional exposures may arise through ingestion of this chemical. We consider that a separate violation of Proposition 65 took place at each of the locations to which Zebco distributed products on each day that the product was offered for sale at such or other locations within California.

Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to certain listed chemicals. This company is in violation of Proposition 65 because it failed to provide a warning to persons shopping at its stores that the product had exposed, and would continue to expose, people in California to hazardous levels of lead. (22 C.C.R. Section 12601.) In the course of doing business in California, the company knowingly and intentionally has exposed and continues to expose people to these chemicals, without first providing clear and reasonable warning. (Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.) Based on the exposures involved, we believe the method of warning should have been a "warning that appears on a product's label or other labeling." (22 C.C.R. Section 12601(b)(1)(A).)

Proposition 65 requires that notice and intent to sue be given to a violator 60 days before the suit is filed. With this letter, Mr. Schwartzberg gives notice of the alleged violations to the noticed party and the appropriate governmental authorities. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 that are currently known to Mr. Schwartzberg from information now available to us. Investigation may lead to information concerning further violations. A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, attached hereto as Exhibit A, has been provided to the noticed party.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Gregory P. Brock

GPB:

Enclosures

cc: Steven Schwartzberg

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

I, Gregory P. Brock, hereby declare:

(1) This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in

which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety

Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

(2) I am the attorney for the noticing party.

(3) I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate

experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the

alleged exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.

(4) Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all

other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case

for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private

action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the

plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged

violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

(5) The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches

to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the

information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the

identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts,

studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: April 20, 2005

Gregory P. Brock

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, GREGORY P. BROCK, declare:

I am a citizen of the United States, over 18 years of age, and employed in the County of Alameda; my business address is 918 Parker Street, Second Floor, Berkeley, California.

That on the date listed below, I served a copy of the following documents:

Notice of Violation of Proposition 65 By W.C. Bradley/Zebco Holdings, Inc.; Certificate of Merit; Attachment To Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy: Contains Official Information Pursuant to Evidence Code Section 1040)

On the following persons by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

	Bill Lockyer, Attorney General	Jeff Pontius, President
	Edward Weil, Supervising Deputy Attorney General	Zebco
	Office of the Attorney General, Department of	6505 Tower Lane
	Justice	Claremore, OK 74017(without
	State of California	Attachment to Certificate of Merit)
	1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000	•
	Oakland, CA 94612	
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Thomas J. Orloff, District Attorney Alameda County District Attorney's Office	W. C. Bradley/Zebco Holdings, Inc. C/O The Corporation Company
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612 (without Attachment to Certificate of Merit)	120 N. Robinson Ste 735 Oklahoma City, OK 73102 (without Attachment to Certificate of Merit)

- <u>x</u> **BY MAIL**: I deposited each document into envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the United States mail at Berkeley, California.
- __ **BY FEDERAL EXPRESS**: I deposited each document into envelope(s), with postage thereon fully prepaid, and placed in a Federal Express mail box to be delivered to the offices of the addressee(s).
- **BY PERSONAL SERVICE**: I served each envelope(s) by hand to the offices of the addressee(s).
 - **BY FACSIMILE**: I transmitted each document by facsimile machine.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on April 20, 2005, at Berkeley, California.



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